

AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before the first paragraph, insert the following centered headings:

- A. Background
1. Field

Page 1, amend the first paragraph to read:

The present invention relates to a device for preparing hot beverages ~~as claimed in the precharacterizing clause of the present patent claim 1.~~

Page 1, after the first paragraph, insert the following centered heading:

2. Related Art

Page 2, before the paragraph spanning pages 2 and 3, insert the following centered heading:

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 3, amend the second full paragraph to read:

Accordingly, the subject matter of the invention is a device for preparing hot beverages having a water container which is arranged on a first base plate, can be removed from the base plate and has a first heating device for heating the water contained in the water container, having a filter unit which receives ground coffee or tea leaves, having a water transferring arrangement ~~means~~ for transferring water originating from the water container into the filter unit, the ~~means for transferring the water~~ transfer arrangement having a second heating device for heating the water to be transferred, and having a receiving vessel arranged downstream of the filter unit, and wherein the ~~device according to the invention being characterized in that~~ the water container can

optionally be positioned in a first position, in which the water container is used as a reservoir container for the water to be transferred into the filter unit, or in a second position, in which the water container is used as a kettle.

Page 5, amend the paragraph spanning pages 5 and 6 to read:

In the mode of operation as a water reservoir container for brewing coffee or tea, a communicating connection must therefore initially be ensured between the interior of the water container and the arrangement means for transferring water out of the water container into the filter unit. For this purpose, preferably in the bottom region, the water container has an outlet opening which can be closed by a self-closing valve. The valve device ensures that no water can escape from the container through the outlet opening when the water container is lifted off from the base plate. The base plate and the lower side of the water container are preferably designed such that the self-closing valve device is only opened when the water container is arranged in the first position. For this purpose, the arrangement means for transferring the water preferably issue into an inlet nozzle which is provided on the upper side of the first base plate and opens the valve device when the water container is arranged in the first position. For this purpose, the inlet nozzle may have, for example, a mandrel which engages in the outlet opening arranged in the bottom region of the water container and actuates the self-closing valve device which, for example, may be designed as a spring-loaded nonreturn valve.

Page 6, amend the first full paragraph to read:

The arrangement means for transferring the water also preferably have a nonreturn valve which is connected downstream of the inlet nozzle, that is to say, for example, arranged between the inlet nozzle and the second heating device for heating the water which is to be transferred. This nonreturn valve ensures that no water which has already been removed from the water container and possibly already heated in the second heating device can flow back and escape from the inlet nozzle when the water container is lifted off from the base plate.

Page 6, amend the second paragraph to read:

The arrangement means for transferring the water preferably comprise lines and/or hoses which connect the inlet nozzle to the second heating device which, as known from coffee machines, may advantageously be designed as a through-flow heater. Further line connections, for example a riser pipe, are connected to the second heating device, said further line connections finally ending in a manner known per se in suitable drip devices which are arranged above the filter unit. After the water has passed the filter unit, which had previously been filled with ground coffee or tea leaves, the resulting brew is received by the receiving vessel, that is to say, for example, a coffeepot or teapot.

Page 8, amend the second paragraph to read:

According to a further embodiment, the water container may, however, also be arranged above the filter unit, this particularly reducing the space required by the device according to the invention. The first base plate is then arranged between filter unit and water container such that the arrangement means for transferring water originating from the water container into the filter unit can be designed in a particularly simple manner since, for example, a riser pipe can be dispensed with.

Page 9, after the first full paragraph, insert the following centered heading:

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 10, before the paragraph spanning pages 10 and 11, insert the following centered heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION